

Church Life

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The First Baptist Church of Chicago

Seventy Years of History: 1833-1903

BY EDWARD GOODMAN.

CHAPTER V.—1879-1881— The Pastorate of Dr. George C. Lorimer.

After the termination of the pastorate of Dr. Everts on the first of January, 1879, the pulpit of the First Church was supplied by Dr. Galusha Anderson and others. There was great anxiety on ac-

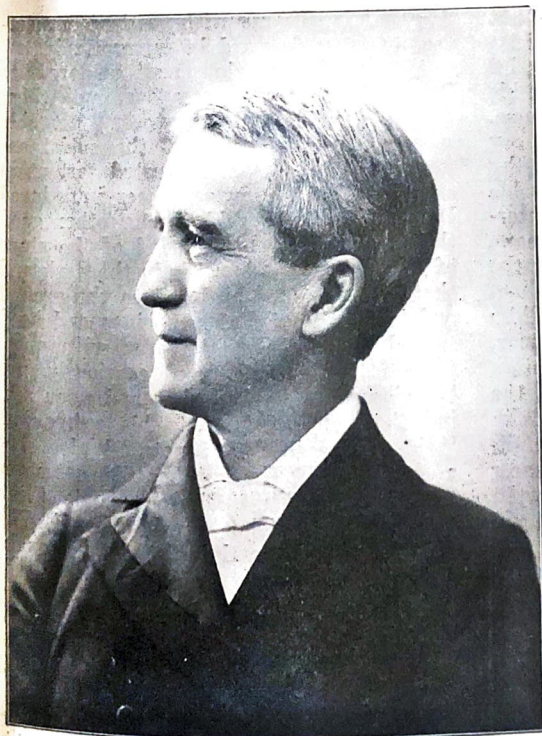
nounced, resulting in cancelling \$50,000 of the debt, leaving \$30,000 as a mortgage on the church building. This wonderful deliverance gave the church fresh confidence to go forward and seek a new pastor. A pulpit committee was chosen with Deacon James E. Tyler as chairman.

Dr. George C. Lorimer was at this time the pastor of the Tremont Temple church, Boston.

At a large meeting of the church Friday evening, March 14, Rev. W. M. Haigh, D. D., being in the chair, the committee on pastor reported through James E. Tyler the chairman. Mr. Tyler remarked that there had been great unanimity expressed in favor of Dr. Lorimer of Boston as the future pastor, and a correspondence with him had encouraged the committee to bring his name before the church.

Mr. Tyler in introducing Dr. Lorimer's name to the church stated the following reasons why the committee were agreed in presenting Dr. Lorimer for the pastorate. Mr. Tyler said:

"Dr. Lorimer is a man of consistent piety and of more than ordinary spirituality, and in the prime of life. He is thoroughly established in Baptist principles and has enlarged Catholic views. He is a very genial man, genial as sunshine. He knows how to maintain his dignity and self-respect. He is a man of remarkable kindness and practical wisdom. He is a man of success—has succeeded in all the churches he has ever served and always filled the houses. He will harmonize all the differ-



Rev George C. Lorimer, D. D.

count of the debt of \$80,000. There was much prayer for divine guidance and on February 2 and 9 subscriptions and personal assumption of obligations were an-

ent interests of the church."

At the close of Mr. Tyler's introduction and after a general expression by a large number present, of confidence in Dr. Lorimer as a man of great ability and character, a hearty and unanimous call was extended to Dr. Lorimer to accept the pastorate of the church.

Dr. Lorimer was induced to come to Chicago to examine the situation. He led the prayer meeting Friday night and preached morning and evening, March 30 to crowded audiences.

At the morning service Dr. Galusha Anderson was in the pulpit with Dr. Lorimer. The text was from the words of Christ—"Heaven and earth shall pass away but my words shall not pass away." Dr. Lorimer closed a memorable sermon with the following suggestions to the members of the church:

"Remember when you have a pastor, that he is God's messenger, and he must deliver God's message. If he does not you may be to blame. The congregation often creates the pulpit. The earnest hearer comes to hear God's word. But how many there are who are not earnest hearers. If the minister has a few present who desire to hear God's word, he dare not speak his own. But when they criticise that, are dissatisfied with that, and desire the preacher's own folly they may get his folly and more of it than is wholesome. Remember, you are hearers. Your cry should be each Sabbath: 'Speak Lord, thy servant heareth.' Beware of the miserable habit of hearing as if in a place of entertainment with the amusement-seeker's ears. Let not your first words be on leaving the house. 'How did you like him this morning?' 'How did you like him? Treat him not as a poor hireling performer. A poor, miserable talker. Think of the substance, of the doctrine, the appeal, the tears, the unction, the consequences. The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him. To be a religious hearer is to be a great learner. Sir Isaac Newton said the only difference between him and other men was that he seemed to be able to pay more attention. Cultivate this gift. Pray for half an hour before you come to God's house; then you will hear not only the word, but the music that is in it as well; not merely the sentences but also the meaning. Take Jesus for your model if you are permitted to teach. Take the highest, and your progress will be upward. Distance does not discourage. Personally I

seek to learn of him. Theological professors and human models could never satisfy me. It is not enough for me to have the earth; the sky has a voice to me as well. I like to stand up sometimes and throw back my head and look fairly at the blue screen yonder which men call the sky, and I feel unwilling to be stranded upon some desolate island-world, in communication with no other portion of God's universe, and feel that I can never reach beyond the measure of its smallness. I believe that I am here upon a little handful of dust which I call the earth, but there are telephonic wires, invisible connections between this tiny rock in the great sea-space and the rest of the universe. So I love to look up from the pulpit to the throne to contemplate him in glory, who spake as never man spake, in humility, and to feel that I am capable of learning of him, that he is the only sufficient model for a being like himself; that, while my own strenuous efforts will yet leave me infinitely below his greatness, that that greatness is the only adequate measure of my progress. Yea, the sense of identity with him in his sacred prophetic mission touches my best ambition, moves my noblest imagination and impels me with restless earnestness to press forward in my work."

A general reception was tendered to Dr. Lorimer on Monday evening, which was a decided and extremely enjoyable success. In the midst of the social enjoyment Mr. Tyler requested attention and in a few happy sentences introduced Dr. Lorimer, who said among other good things, that he was reminded of the story of boys who went hunting in the dark and shot an owl. The bird fell to the ground and lay with outstretched wings and head turned to one side, the eyes wide open. One of the lads advanced cautiously, not knowing what he had shot and upon seeing the owl exclaimed to his companion, "Jim, we're in for it now. We've shot a cherubim." The speaker did not want to have the First Church people think that they had "shot a cherubim." The result might show that they had brought down only an owl. Referring to the call he said that he could not say, then, whether or not he should leave Boston. The parting with old friends was always attended with great agony and he disliked constant moving. He expressed himself as highly delighted with the reception tendered him. He would make known his decision in as short a time as possible.

Perhaps it will be interesting to many members of the church at the present time to read the names of some of those present at this First Church social twenty-five years ago. We are able to give the names as recorded at the time, as follows:

Rev. Leroy Church, and Miss Churen.
Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Tyler, Edward Goodman, sister and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Marsh, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Norman T. Gassetts, Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Donnelley, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Duffield, Prof. and Mrs. William Mathews, Mr. H. N. Hawkins, Mr. B. F. Jacobs, Rev. and Mrs. E. K. Cressey, Rev. Robert P. Allison, Rev. G. W. Northrup, D. D., Rev. Lewis Raymond, Rev. F. B. Ives, Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, Mrs. Tolman, Mr. William Garnett, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Mills, Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Pope, Mrs. E. R. Dickerson, Mr. J. S. Dickerson, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Burtis, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Clarke, Dr. and Mrs. Durfee, Dr. and Mrs. L. H. Smith, Mr. James Darlow, Mrs. Miller, Miss McKevitt, Mrs. and Miss Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smith, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Pettingill, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. L. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Hanson, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Haigh, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Havens, Mrs. Nancy Smith, Mrs. M. A. Farwell and Miss Farwell, Mrs. W. B. Foster, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Blakely, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Hovey, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Johnson, Mr. J. A. Hovey and Miss Hovey, Mr. and Mrs. N. Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Everetts, Mrs. H. W. Spratt, Mrs. Jacobus, Miss Mary Gaylord, Miss Jennie Spratt, Miss Hattie Sumner, Miss Sadie Bigelow, the Misses Duffield, Misses Squires, King, Bevan, Hanson, Miller, Ward, Stowell, Goodman, Messrs. Darlow, Gorton, Piquenard, and many others."

Dr. Lorimer returned to Boston without deciding whether he would accept the pastorate but in response to a telegram sent April 4, declaring that the committee believed he would come, a dispatch was returned as follows and read at the prayer meeting: "According to your faith, be it unto you. Your affectionate pastor, George C. Lorimer." The reading of the telegram was greeted with applause and the large audience at the suggestion of Dea. R. S. Parker, a member of the committee, arose and sang the doxology, with unusual spirit and thankful hearts. Dr. Lorimer preached his first sermon as pastor May 4, 1879.

It was with great regret that the Tem-

ple Church, and the Boston ministers and friends, gave up Dr. Lorimer, and many were the expressions of their love and appreciation. A notable dinner party of ministers by invitation of Rev. Henry A. Cooke, D. D., at his elegant residence on West Canton street, was given in honor of Dr. Lorimer, in connection with his approaching departure for Chicago. There were present Drs. Crane, Murdoch, Barnard, Gordon, Hovey, S. F. Smith, Gifford, Warren, Kennard, Seymour, Taylor, Walker, Spaulding, Mabie, Love, Lawton, Rowe, Foljambe and Capen. The venerable Dr. Neale was unable to be present. A writer for the Standard at the time, said: "Our host was in his happiest vein, and how much of good humor that implies, those only who enjoy the acquaintance Mr. Cooke can know. We took all the time needed—five blessed hours. We talked Boston and Chicago up and down, we talked Dr. Lorimer inside and out, we opened our hearts, we cried, we laughed—we sang 'The Sweet Bye and Bye,' we heard verses grave and verses gay. We sighed for ourselves who will miss the kindly greeting, the eloquent tongue and the wise counsels at the Temple. We inwardly exulted for you, ye great northwest, who are to add and claim for your own another star to the galaxy of your pulpit lights, a broad counsellor in your educational and missionary enterprises, and a true hearted servant of God. Pastors many from their various relations to Dr. Lorimer, gave their testimonials as to their warm appreciation of his nine years of work in Boston and the strong ties of friendship which this transition cannot break."

Dr. Lorimer in response to his introduction by Dr. Cooke among other remarks humorously referred to the fact that he nearly lost his call to Boston on account of the fact that he made his *entree* into the city fresh from a tramp in the White Mountains clad in Kentucky jeans and with a cigar in his mouth, and afterward told how he was induced to give up his habit of smoking by the innocent remark of a young convert whom he was examining that he had "given up all bad habits, including smoking."

Dr. Lorimer was called to the First Church when it was in peril. God evidently smiled upon the new relations entered into, for the church at once assumed new life and achieved new victories for Christ.

Dr. Lorimer's first sermon as pastor

was on "The Incarnation" from the text, "Without controversy, great is the mystery of godliness, God was manifest in the flesh." The preacher concluded a remarkable discourse in these words:

"What am I here for? What think you I have come to do? The incarnation defines my highest aims. I assume this pulpit not in the hopes of gathering here a church where arrogance, pride and luxury may sleep in cushioned pews. My ambition is not so low, so abject as to be satisfied with the tinsel surroundings of wealth or with the pomp of social distinction. Neither come I among you to contend for forms and ceremonies, apostolic orders and solemn ordinances—to introduce unnecessary discord among the various classes of believers in this city by useless discussions regarding rite and shadow. No, a thousand times no! If I know my heart, while cherishing my convictions on all points as sacred and representing as impertinence the cry of 'bigot' which is so freely hurled against every man who has something to believe and who believes something. I come to you in the hope that my ministry may develop yet more and more the Christ-life in your souls. I seek here a church that shall indeed be 'the body of Christ,—his shrine, his dwelling-place; a church that shall in her own life be the grandest evidence and the noblest exemplification of the incarnation. We have in this morning's study suggested the mission of the church. The incarnation is God's expression of his infinite yearnings for human weal, and his people are devoted by his spirit to the same great cause. They are to honor humanity. They are to realize that life is larger than it looks, is a pulse of God, a spark of immortality, is part of the very eternity of the eternal. They are to encourage men to take off the cerements of a lower life and rise into the liberty of holiness, into the blessedness of the ineffable bliss of God. They are to speak the message that shall touch their best ambition, move their noblest imagination, and offer to their heart the profoundest and most enduring satisfaction. My brethren, we must seek to make men greater, we must help them up to the loftiest level, we must inspire them with the grandest aims. If they shall answer that their hearts are getting less, that their spirits have been shrinking within them, that their aims are narrowing down to a mean and insignificant point, we must tell them that God's promises are equal

to their situation; and that, hearing them, they must spring out of the grave of their despair, and be clothed with all the beautiful garments of hope and peace.

"I come among you to be your leader in this holy work, a work I cannot do alone. You must stand by me. You must share with me in scorning earth's distinctions and in willingness to minister to the needs of the most wretched and abandoned. Self-indulgence, ease, must be sacrificed, yea, gifts and talents must be consecrated to this cause if it is to be more than an empty parade, a hollow sham. If you will succeed, you must be the incarnate One. As he surrendered crown and throne, as he journeyed a pilgrim along earth's dusty highways, as he did not evade the agony of the cross, so must you with earnest, undivided hearts, with lofty unselfish purpose, devote your lives to this service."

The first Sunday of Dr. Lorimer's pastorate was memorable from his earnest and able discourses, the large attendance and the enthusiasm of the people.

On a Tuesday evening the new pastor was recognized, in connection with a large reception at the church, to which the city pastors of different denominations were invited. After an hour spent in introductions and social intercourse Mr. F. E. Hinckley called to order. Prayer was offered by Bishop Cheney of the Reformed Episcopal Church. Dr. Everts who was on his way to his new home at Bergen Heights, New Jersey was called out. He referred to his life in Louisville, Ky., where he first knew Dr. Lorimer, and baptized him. He spoke in tender words of his undying love for the church, and welcomed his successor most cordially. Dr. Lorimer followed in an earnest, tender and bright talk. He spoke of his early life when he first knew Dr. and Mrs. Everts, to whom he was indebted for being led from a life of ungodliness to the Saviour. He spoke many tender words to the departing pastor his "father in the gospel," words of love and cheer. He also gave amusing recollections of his early life, and referred to some of the reasons which decided him to leave Boston and come to Chicago. Dr. John Peddie, pastor of the Second Baptist Church, in a happy speech welcomed Dr. Lorimer to Chicago and bade farewell to Dr. Everts. Congratulatory words were spoken by Dr. Parkhurst and Dr. Patton. Dr. J. Monroe Gibson of the Second Presbyterian Church, in his whole-souled way, said a

few words and pronounced the benediction.

Dr. Lorimer's coming to the First Church was a matter of profound interest to the whole denomination in Chicago and to the northwest. He was needed and his favorable influence and help were experienced far and wide. He was heartily welcomed by the Baptist Ministers' Conference, and the Chicago Baptist Social Union, where he made many notable addresses. His ministry of two years at the First Church, was remarkably successful; 471 members were received, 174 of the number by baptism. The seating capacity of the audience room was increased by the addition of some 400 extra seats and \$12,000 of the debt provided for.

In 1881 Dr. Lorimer, with wonderful self-denial, felt it his duty to endeavor to save the important interests connected with the Michigan Avenue Church whose house had been greatly damaged by fire and the membership suffered great discouragement. This implied his leaving the First Church. Although the church was very loathe to give up its pastor and valued members, in this decision he had the consent and co-operation of the First Church, and some 250 of its members left with him and united with others in the Immanuel Church, and the First Church gave Dr. Lorimer a parting gift of some \$1,500 to help him in his new arduous undertaking. This heroic effort of Dr. Lorimer was a success and for ten years his consecration, personal magnetism, excellent judgment and public gifts drew large and enthusiastic audiences, and large additions to the Immanuel Church.

Death of Dr. George C. Lorimer

Since this writing was commenced, it is with great sorrow we record that the beloved one, who is the subject of this chapter, has unexpectedly passed away. Not only his family and his church in New York, but the Baptist denomination have been greatly bereaved. He was universally known and loved.

A great and lovable man has fallen. His work was done and well done. We need not mourn, but rather rejoice that he is now free from care and pain and has "gained the Father's house, and drinks with angels from the fount of bliss."

Dr. Lorimer was seriously ill in New York some months before the time for his usual vacation. He went to England intending to rest in the hope of again regaining his usual vigor. On his arrival

at the Russell Hotel in London, he was again taken ill and had to undergo two operations one in London and another in Berlin. When he was ready to return home he was urged by his family and church in New York to take some weeks longer. He went to Aix La Bains, France, where all sorts of baths were tried but to no advantage, and he died somewhat suddenly September 8. It is a comfort to know that his son George H. and wife reached him just before the close. The body was brought to New York on the steamer *Teutonic*. The funeral was held on Thursday afternoon, September 22, at the Madison Avenue Baptist Church. It was a remarkable gathering. The church was crowded to do honor to the memory of the beloved pastor. The pastors of Greater New York and vicinity and laymen were present in large numbers. Tremont Temple sent a sorrowing delegation. Ministers of other denominations were there and many others came from distant parts. The floral tributes were wonderful.

Dr. Henry M. Sanders had charge of the services and with him in the pulpit were Dr. Edward Judson, Dr. R. S. MacArthur, Dr. P. S. Henson, Dr. J. F. Elder, Dr. Edward Loux, Dr. Cornelius Wolfheim and Rev. H. E. Fosdick, who had been Dr. Lorimer's assistant. The addresses of Drs. Sanders, MacArthur and Henson were exceedingly touching and appropriate. Dr. Edward Judson led in a tender prayer and the hymn "Majestic Sweetness Sits Enthroned," a special favorite of Dr. Lorimer's was sung.

Dr. Lorimer was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, June 4, 1838. He early displayed genius as an actor. At fourteen years of age he went to sea, at seventeen he was in America and while filling an engagement at Louisville, Ky., in a theatre, was led to attend revival meetings at the Walnut Street Baptist Church, where under the special influence of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. W. W. Everts, he was converted and baptized by Dr. Everts. He at once decided to become a Christian minister. He entered Georgetown College, Kentucky, where he graduated in 1859, when he was twenty-one years of age. He was ordained by the Baptist Church at Harrodsburg, Ky., where was his first pastorate. Here he married Miss Belle C. Buford, who has been such a wonderful help to him all through his eventful life. His second pastorate was at Paducah, Key. From that place he was called to succeed Dr. Everts

at the Walnut Street Church, Louisville, where for eight years he was successful and gained a marked reputation. He was pastor for two years at the First Church, Albany, N. Y., and then accepted the pastorate of the Shawmut Avenue Church, Boston. His next pastorate was at the Tremont Temple Church, Boston, where for nine years he wrought nobly. The new Temple was built and vast congregations gathered. In 1879 as previously stated he came to the First Church, Chicago, for two years, then at Immanuel Church for ten years. From Chicago he returned to the Tremont Temple Church in Boston. His last pastorate was at the Madison Avenue Church, New York. Dr. Lorimer was an able author and writer. Books written by him are, "Isms Old and New," "The Great Conflict," "Jesus the World's Saviour," "Studies in Social Life," "Christianity and the Social State," "Christianity in the Nineteenth Century," "Messages of Today, to the Man of Tomorrow," "Life of Charles Spurgeon," and other important works.

Dr. Lorimer had been accustomed for years to spend his summer vacations abroad and occupied prominent pulpits in London, where he had many warm friends. The Russell Hotel where he stayed on his last visit is near the Baptist Church House, where the "Baptist Times and Freeman" is published. The editor, Mr. A. W. Shakespeare, thus came in close touch with him, and perhaps the last article Dr. Lorimer wrote for publication was the leader in that journal of August 19. The editor says: "In view of his death since, the last paragraph in that article acquires a pathetic interest." He wrote:

As for myself, and recalling how near I stood a few weeks ago to the end of life, my sincere ambition is when that end shall come and I am laid away at rest to be worthy of this epitaph:

"Faithful unto death."

Greater honor this than to inscribe on this perishing stone fulsome eulogies on the dead man's eloquence or liberalism. Eloquence is only a gift, faithfulness is a virtue; liberalism is merely good natured indifference—most common among men who find it a task to think—but faithfulness is steadfastness and loyalty.

The editor says of Dr. Lorimer: "As an orator he was almost without an equal. Few men whom we have heard could sway an audience as he did. In his early life he had been on the stage, and the dramatic

instinct was strong to the last. But delivery with him was but accessory to other and greater gifts. He was a wide reader and hard student, of unflagging and amazing industry and with a wonderful power of assimilation. Everything he heard or saw or read was stored up for use, and was used most effectively. Then he had a marvellous power of getting at the heart of his subject and of unfolding and illustrating it. Perhaps his greatest oratorical triumph was at the Parliament of Religion held in Chicago in 1893. A Buddhist priest spoke before Dr. Lorimer and the doctor was so roused that his friends had almost to hold him in his seat by main force. Then his turn came and one who was present told us, that he had never heard from human lips such an outburst of splendid oratory. The audience was swept off its feet. Some one in the audience sprang up and cried, 'Three cheers for Jesus Christ.' The leader of the orchestra of a thousand voices gave them something better and more reverent. He struck up, 'All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name,' and the audience took it up with enthusiasm. The scene beggared description. On the platform men stood up almost in a frenzy flung their arms about each other's necks, and marched up and down singing, 'All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!' As for the Buddhist priest he disappeared and was seen no more."

Dr. John Clifford of London was an intimate friend of Dr. Lorimer. For a month in 1898, they exchanged pulpits. Dr. Lorimer took Westbourne Park and Dr. Clifford Tremont Temple. Dr. Clifford writes to the Baptist Times and Freeman of September 16:

"It is extremely difficult to think that our dear friend Dr. Lorimer has passed from among us. We cannot realize it. He was so intensely vital that we did not and could not think him old. . . . He went to Aix Les Bains. In was in vain. His illness increased and all that was left of him was, in the language of Dante, whom he often quoted, 'to lower his sails, and gather in the ropes,' and 'enter softly with gentle steerage' into the haven of eternal rest, and Thursday morning, September 8, it could be said of him:

Safe home, safe home in port!

The exile is at home.

What matters now grief's darkest day?
The King has wiped those tears away.

For our friend 'all is well,' he is 'forever with the Lord;' but this is a very dark and cloudy day for the beloved companion of his home, the 'invaluable' helper of his ministry of whom he says, in the dedication of one of his books, 'I owe more to her than to all the others, however famed and learned,' referring to the scholars and thinkers whose services he acknowledged! May the God of the widow be her strength! May she and her family and the bereaved church be soothed and sustained by the tender regard of the Baptist churches of America and England for the services, the character, and the memory of this departed prophet of God!

Baptists in England and America mourn his early departure; but also thank God for his fine powers nobly dedicated to the highest service of man; for his faith in and devotion to the Saviour; for his loyalty to his conscience; for his proclamation of 'soul liberty' as the basis of the Christian Church and of the political state; for his enthusiastic and consecrated life, and for his faithfulness as a messenger of the gospel of the Grace of God to all mankind."

Memorial Service.

At a meeting at the First Church on the evening of September 14, 1904, in memory of Dr. Lorimer, after appreciative references by Dr. Austen K. de Blois, the pastor, Mr. Edward Goodman and Mr. C. R. Stouffer, the following was unanimously adopted, and a copy ordered to be sent to Dr. Lorimer's family:

The First Baptist Church of Chicago learns with sorrow of the death of its former pastor Dr. George C. Lorimer and desires to record its high estimate of him therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of Dr. Lori-

mer we have sustained a personal loss and regret that he seems to have been prematurely called away from active service in the church and in the world. But he that "knoweth our frame and remembereth that we are dust," hath said—"He that believeth in me though he were dead yet shall he live." And so in the darkness of sorrow we face the light.

He was cordially welcomed to this church in 1879 and for two years was the faithful, efficient and beloved pastor. We knew him as a true man of God and minister of Jesus Christ a man who moved in a larger orbit, incapable of small ideas or unworthy deeds and we loved him, trusted him and we are thankful that he was honored of God as the instrument in the salvation of many souls and the edification of the church.

We are thankful for the abundant evidence we have of his life of usefulness in the many churches which he served during his extended ministry and that wherever he was pastor he enjoyed the love and appreciation of his people.

We deeply sympathize with Mrs. Lorimer and the bereaved family in the great trial that has overtaken them and pray that in the midnight of their sorrow and loss they may hear an echo from David's harp yet spoken by the voice of God. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

"Oh, heart more tender than woman's;

Oh, soul more brave than theirs who died on battle field, or at the martyr's stake, farewell!

Rest thou in the bosom of thy Lord."

We, who for a season thou hast left behind send thee our pledge to go forward till victory shalt crown the work thou hast begun.

(To be continued.)



The Church at Work

Sunday School

R. J. Pickett, Dept. Editor

Our school, with the rest of the Sunday School army, scattered over our country, held the fall rally September 25th as planned and it was a real rally.

On the Monday preceeding Rally Day a very helpful teachers' meeting was held, the attendance was good and the spirit

manifested was of the highest order and bids fair for a year of activity on the part of the teachers. All are united in the effort to have a larger and a better school.

The inspiration received by those in attendance at our Rally Day exercises is not to be computed, the crowd, the intense in-

terest, the presence of the older people and the well arranged program all combined to make the day a great success. The programs were in the hands of committees which proved their efficiency. The chairmen were Miss Wilken and Miss Witte in their respective departments.

A complete list of those in attendance was obtained and we hope to secure every one of them for some department of the school. There is a place for them, and one for your. Come and join us in the study of God's Word.

The executive committee has been in session with the pastor, with new plans under consideration and with a view to increasing the effectiveness of our work. It is with confidence that we look toward the future of our school.



Christian Endeavor

Miss E. M. Pickett, Dept. Editor

"Go Forward"—This motto of our pastor's has sunk deep into our hearts, and we are anxious to advance accomplishing greater works than we have ever done. Our Society has two special aims before it, a membership of one hundred and the raising of our pledge of one thousand dollars for Raymond Chapel.

In the past two months of August and September, Christian Endeavor has taken several long steps on the road of progress. Our attendance has continued to grow, and our membership as well. We welcome twenty into the work and privileges of membership with us at this time.

Mr. Phares Minisch

Mr. Fred Walters

Miss Mabel Shane

Miss Maud Robinson

Mr. Walter Leland

Miss May Martin

Miss Violet Fuller

Miss Jessie Forsythe

Miss Florence Huskey

Miss Frances Huskey

Mr. William Landers

Mr. S. B. Simms

Miss Edith Durham

Miss Fisher

Miss Myrtle Durham

Miss Myrtle Linehan

Miss Ada Parry

Mr. Ernest Londahl

Mr. Julius Lackner

Mr. Geo. C. Arthur

Mr. Adrian Webster

This is the largest increase gained by

any Society of the South Division C. E. Union in the past two months, when a contest has been going on for the "Increase Banner." So we still hold the banner that we took two months ago, we mean to take it a third time, and keep it.

The outdoor meetings that have been held all summer at the 31st street entrance, with such good results have been closed for the season. We are thankful for their success, and wish to thank all who participated in and led them. We are especially indebted to our Pastor, our Assistant Pastor Mr. Embree, to Mr. Van Meter, Mr. Burlingame and Mr. Boynton, pastor of the Lexington Avenue Baptist Church, with others who have given their loyal assistance to this work.

Boat Ride

Saturday, August 13th, was a "threateningly" rainy day and many refrained from going on the boat ride on that account yet all who went were well repaid. At Michigan City some indulged in swimming, bathing and other sports. On the return trip our members gathered in the cabin where Miss Legner, Miss Little, and Mr. Hale gave several musical selections. Though the receipts from the excursion were not as large as we hoped, yet under the unfavorable conditions we feel thankful to have cleared a little over fifty dollars. Adding to this the pledges already made with those that have since come in four hundred and ninety dollars have been given for the Raymond Chapel through the C. E. Society.

The August missionary meeting came a little early in the month that we might have the pleasure of listening to a missionary from Central America, Mr. Bender, who was passing through the city. That part of our country is given over to Catholicism in a very idolatrous form, and there are but two Christian missionaries working there. The need is very great, and the ignorance of the people can scarcely be credited. At the close of the meeting we adjourned in a body to the home and lawn of Mr. Harry Hale. We enjoyed several musical selections, and also games and the water melon served in the light of many Japanese lanterns on the lawn.

On the evening of September 20th, about one hundred of our Endeavorers and their friends greatly enjoyed a "Cobweb Party" in the lecture room of the church. The songs by Miss Janet Stedman and the readings by Miss Collins ad-

ded much to the enjoyment of the evening.

South Division Christian Endeavor Union

The first Rally of the season was held Thursday evening, September 29th, at the Plymouth Congregational Church. We can justly congratulate ourselves upon the attendance of our members. If we did not capture the attendance banner, we did take however what is really a higher honor, the "Increase Banner" for the second time. The address of the evening given by Mr. Johnston Myers, on "Increase and Lookout Work," was most inspiring, and full of practical suggestion. The social hour at the close was much enjoyed by Endeavorers from the many South Division Societies.

A South Division Junior C. E. Rally was held on Tuesday evening, Sept. 27th at Quinn Chapel, Wabash avenue and 24th street. A good meeting was reported. Our own Junior Society took up the regular work again this fall, with great hope and ambition for better work this year. Do you know of some child that should be at the Junior meeting Sunday afternoon? Tell him about the meeting and take him with you. It will be an inspiration to you to attend.

Please notice this announcement:—There is to be a missionary committee conference of the South Division Union on Thursday evening, October 13th in our church parlors. Every one interested in missionary work is urged to come and all others should come and hear of what is being done—and you will become interested.



THE LORIMER CLASS

(Formerly the Onward Class)

By a vote of the class September 26th, the name "Onward Class" was changed to "Lorimer Class. The fact that our Onward Class, under that name, seemed more like an imitation of another Onward Class (located in the Belden Avenue Baptist Church) than anything else; and that "Onward" was apparently better suited to a class of boys younger than ours, were among the reasons put forth by those desiring the change. It was thought fitting at this time to name the class in memory of Rev. Geo. C. Lorimer, LL. D., one of the world's great leaders and a former pastor of our church.

The Monday night social meetings were begun again on September 26th, when Dr.

de Blois spoke to the boys.

Monday evening, October 10th, the boys will entertain the young ladies of the church at a social. Refreshments will be served. An excellent program is being prepared and a very enjoyable evening is assured. All young men and young ladies are invited.



Ladies' Benevolent Society

Mrs. W. Morava, Dept. Editor

The ladies of the Benevolent Society, with minds refreshed and a large stock of accumulated energy on which to draw, are actively at work preparing for a bazaar, to be held on the afternoons and evenings of December 1st and 2nd. The arrangements are not yet fully completed, but there will be an almost endless variety of useful and decorative articles for sale in the various booths, presided over by dignified matrons and charming young ladies. The young ladies will take great pleasure in selling candy and promise to make the supply equal the demand. A Utility Booth will appeal to the practical housewife, while the Fancy Goods will attract those looking for the ornamental. In the Japanese Booth light refreshments will tempt dainty appetites. The Delicatessen department will have a large assortment of home made jellies, pickles, preserves and canned goods, contributed by our ladies from their own store rooms. There will also be a supply of delicious doughnuts, tempting salads and all kinds of bread and rolls, fresh from the ovens. A Baby Booth will claim the attention of those interested in the cooing, smiling infants. Every one interested in Raymond Mission is requested to help make this Bazaar a financial and a social success.



Women's Mission Circle

Mrs. L. B. Lingle, Dept. Editor

The large attendance at the first fall meeting of the Circle on September 9th, was a good indication of the interest taken in this branch of our church work.

Each one present expressed in looks and words the pleasure felt in the reunion and an earnest purpose in the plans of the work and study of the year.

Letters from both Home and Foreign secretaries of the Societies to which we are auxiliary, spoke of enlarged plans and increased need, and suggested our apportionment as \$450.00 and \$500.00 re-

spectively. But little has been received by the treasurer during the summer months, and a very great and united effort will be necessary in order to accomplish this. If the Young Ladies' Missionary Society and the Endeavorers are as faithful in their missionary collections as in past years, it ought not to be an impossible amount for the women of our church to give to this cause.

The program was much enjoyed. Mrs. Ketman gave us a share in her recent trip to Palestine, and Bible lands were brought vividly before us; pictures and curios adding to the interest of her description. Mrs. Hakim, a Syrian woman, now working among her own people in our city, told of her own life with its sad experiences and spoke hopefully of the work among her countrymen. Two Syrian children from her Sunday School sang in their native tongue.

A social reunion was enjoyed at the close of the program, Mrs. Hinckley and Mrs. Cochrane presiding.

The next meeting of the Circle will be held on October 13th. The study of China will be continued, the people of China being the special subject.

The annual reception at the Home for Missionaries' Children will be held at the Home in Morgan Park, on October 11th. Luncheon will be served as usual and a good program is prepared. These occasions are always so enjoyable that we feel sure a large delegation will be present from our church.



Raymond Chapel

Charles H. Coyle. Dept. Editor

Our beloved and efficient Superintendent, Bro. L. T. Austermell, finds that the state of his health makes it imperative that he give up for awhile the arduous duties of the superintendency of our Bible School. He has yielded to our entreaties so far that he has not formally resigned the place, as was his intention, but he will give it into other hands for a season. No one who knows of the devotion and zeal with which Bro. Austermell has labored at Raymond for the past fifteen years can doubt that he regrets as keenly as we the necessity that compels him to step aside even temporarily. May he very soon find it possible again to take up the work. Bro. Embree will take his place.

Our Raymond Chapel people turned out in force at the Covenant prayer meeting Sept. 28th. The vote to be taken deciding the location of our new building was of course the strong motive. But we hope for a steadily increasing attendance of our people at these meetings.

During the absence of Miss Shrigley, superintendent of the Infant Department of our school, Mr. Chas. Edling, Mr. Vivian Gunderson and Mr. Rader have carried on the work most successfully. Miss Eva McIntyre has helped by playing the piano.

We have several strings of fish hanging up in the Bible School room and new fish are strung each Sunday. As described last month the plan is to string upon the line of the boy or girl bringing in new scholars one paper fish for each new scholar. The strings are hung up side by side with the fisher's name above each and prizes are promised to those making the largest catches.

We are grieved to hear of the death at Scriven, Minn., of one of our former members, Mr. Ernest Foots. He and his family are among the many saved during the early days of the Mission and for years they were regular attendants.

A teachers' meeting for the study of the lesson has been started, being held at the close of our prayer meeting Tuesday evenings.

Mr. Antoszewski, a Missionary of the Chicago Tract Society working among the Polish of Chicago, spoke to our young people Sunday evening, Sept. 18th. To many it was a revelation to hear what manner of people our Polish neighbors are and what can be and is being done among them to bring them to Christ.

We were honored by a visit of Dr. de Blois to our Bible school on Rally Sunday. As always the children gave close attention to the inspiring words our pastor uttered.

Week by week the walls of our "model Chapel" on the platform are rising higher. About fifty dollars has already been brought in by the children in these "bricks." We trust the real building may soon overtake and pass the pastboard one.

Mr. Vivian Gunderson has been seriously ill for several weeks. We rejoice to learn that he is now recovering.



The Building Fund

The location of the new chapel is settled. The erection of the building will begin as soon as sufficient subscriptions are paid in to Mr. Wigney. Every day's delay is fatal to our aggressive work. All whose pledges are due are requested to send them in without delay. Mr. Wigney's address is 3105 Indiana.



Personal and Other Notes

Man's problems are God's providences.

Mrs. W. E. Smith is in St. Louis visiting the Fair.

Mrs. Jackman went this week for a visit in St. Louis.

Mrs. Piercey is spending a few weeks in Washington, D. C.

The cut of Dr. Lorimer is used by courtesy of the "Standard."

Mrs. Harry Stone is going to spend some time at Hot Springs for the benefit of her health.

Our pastor delivered an address before the Wisconsin State Association last Monday evening.

The teachers' social on September 19th was cause for great encouragement to officers and teachers. The talks by the teachers were all characterized by an earnest desire for larger usefulness.

Miss Mabel E. Moors, formerly a pupil of Prof. Hattstardt, is securing a number of piano pupils. We are greatly favored in having the voluntary services of such an accomplished musician in our Sunday School.

A teacher's training class on Monday evening, taught by a specialist in Sunday School work is one of the new plans to be taken up within a few weeks. All who can and especially every teacher should improve this excellent opportunity.

Our cradle roll seems to be catching the spirit of growth, which now characterizes our whole church. Last month William Wigney Hessler came to the home of our primary superintendent. Last week our pastor's family was blessed with a baby boy and last Sunday evening another boy came to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Embree.

The Pastor's Message.

The fine record which the Christian Endeavorers have recently been making deserves more than a passing reference. The meetings are largely attended and a spirit of energy and hope prevails. At the recent Rally, held in Plymouth Church, our representatives far out-numbered those of any other Society. There were 53 members and 13 visitors in our delegation. Besides this, and better than this, our young people won the "Increase Banner" for the second time in succession and Raymond Chapel stood next, among all of the organizations of all denominations included in the District. The First Church Society has added 20 new members since July, and Raymond Chapel has added 10.

The Amoret Henson Guild has held its first meeting. The Men's League will hold a banquet to begin the year, about the middle of this month. The Benevolent Society starts next Friday. The Sunday School officers are holding important conferences, and it is rumored that Mrs. Lamoreaux has consented to teach the lesson each week to the teachers; if this be true there is good reason to rejoice, for her success in Sunday School work has given her a national reputation. Mr. Embree's class of young men is alert and vigorous; the Boys' Club has held one meeting; the Raymond work is nobly holding its own under trying conditions.

Before all else it is necessary that we consecrate ourselves to God without reserve. If we have given him a half-hearted service in the past let us honestly seek to yield a sincere and whole-hearted devotion this year. The greatest evil of any church is to be satisfied with a merely formal round of duties. I have one great ambition for our church, and it is that we may all become soul-winners. This term is offensive to some persons. I don't see why it should be. Christ was preeminently and always a soul-winner; and we follow Him. If every member of our church were willing to undertake what in his heart he well knows that Jesus Christ requires of him; were every member an active and enthusiastic winner of souls, the strength of our church would increase instantly and mightily. Our fondest dreams would be more than realized. Sinners in multitudes would be brought into fellowship with our glorious Master, darkened lives would be flooded with the sunlight of God's love, homes would be transformed, and social plagues would be driven out and destroyed.

What interferes with the attainment of this ideal? The laziness and selfishness of the individual church-member. No wonder the world scoffs at us. No wonder the newspapers refer constantly and sneeringly to the formal and unaggressive spirit of the churches. Your neighbor judges Jesus Christ and his religion by you, by your life, by your Christ-like activity or by your inactivity. You and I are to blame if more men are not won for Christ.

We must make this year one of resolute and united effort for the highest interests

of the kingdom. As your Pastor I shall seek to declare the truth fearlessly. I shall work as hard as I know how to work, for you and for my Saviour. I shall expect your loyal support. And I shall believe that our Heavenly Father will give us a year of great blessing, and of spiritual power.

Pray that it may be so. Plan that it may be so. Work to make it so.

Your Pastor,

Austen Kennedy de Blois.

The Journal of the Church

H. F. Perkins, Church Clerk

September 2. Friday. Christian Endeavor prayer meeting led by Rev. W. M. Embree. Topic: "New courage for new work." Ps. 144:1-15. Acts 28:15.

September 4. Sunday. Preaching by Rev. H. H. Branch, of Carbondale, Ill. The morning theme was "Readiness" and the evening, "The Faith that Saves."

September 5. Monday. Open air service under the auspices of the Christian Endeavor Society addressed by Mr. H. I. Van Meter.

September 7. Wednesday. Church prayer and social service led by Ass't. Pastor Embree. Topic: "Consecration to Christ."

September 8. Thursday. Meeting of Bible Class C.

September 9. Friday. Christian Endeavor prayer meeting led by Messrs. Rhenisch and Vallette. Topic: "How the world is growing better." Ps. 37:1-13; Eccl. 7:10.

Meeting of the Women's Mission Circle addressed by Madame Hakin of Syria and Mrs. Ketman.

September 11. Sunday. Sermons by the Pastor, morning: "Changed by Beholding," evening, "Sea-Beach Echoes."

September 12. Monday. Open-air services addressed by Rev. M. P. Boynton, of Lexington Avenue Church. Social meeting of the Onward Class addressed by Dr. de Blois.

September 14. Wednesday. Church prayer service, a memorial for the late Rev. George C. Lorimer.

September 15. Thursday. Meeting of Bible Class C.

September 16. Friday. Christian En-

deavor monthly missionary meeting led by Miss Helen Pickett.

September 18. Sunday. In the morning the Pastor preached on the theme, "The Master and the World Field;" and in the evening on "Christ our Leader."

September 19. Monday. Meeting of the Sunday School teachers and officers. Social meeting of the Onward Class.

September 20. Tuesday. A "Cob-web Social" given by the Christian Endeavor Society.

September 21. Wednesday. Church prayer service. The Lorimer memorial service was continued from the previous week.

September 22. Thursday. Meeting of Bible Class C.

September 23. Friday. Christian Endeavor meeting led by Miss Blanche Pickett. Theme, "Good Literature."

September 24. Saturday. Meeting of the Boys' Club.

September 25. Sunday. Rally Day exercises of the Sunday School.

Sermons by the Pastor, morning: "The Holy Catholic Church;" evening: "Shall Sin be Punished?"

September 26. Monday. Social meeting of the Onward Class. Mr. Suter entertained in his usual acceptable manner.

September 28. Wednesday. Church prayer and social service. A special business meeting to consider the site for Raymond Chapel.

September 30. Friday. Christian Endeavor prayer meeting led by Mr. H. F. Perkins. Topic: "How we are in training to succeed others." Deut. 34:7-12. Josh. 1:1-2.

(The additions to our membership will appear in our next issue.)